

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER 2006

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS or to www.zs6mrk.org and following the indicated links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with a relay on 3 695 kHz. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with sadness that we have to announce that the key of Petro Ellis, ZS6QB, the XYL of Kallie Ellis, ZS6BQ, became silent at the age of almost 62 years on the 10th October. To her mother, husband Kallie, children, grand children, other relatives and friends, our sincerest condolences.

In the news today:

RADIO AMATEUR WOUNDED IN ROBBERY ATTEMPT

RECORD NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO WRITE RAE

WOULD YOUR CLUB LIKE TO HOST THE 2007 AGM?

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

RADIO AMATEUR WOUNDED IN ROBBERY ATTEMPT

As many of us probably know by now, Koos van der Merwe, ZS6JPY, was seriously wounded in a robbery attempt by thugs on Saturday a week ago at the home of him and his XYL, Michelle, ZS6TO. Koos was operated on and part of a damaged artery replaced. Koos is now at home and on the long recovery road after release from hospital last Friday. Koos and Michelle express their appreciation and thank everyone for their support and prayers last week. We wish Koos a speedy and full recovery.

RECORD NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO WRITE RAE

A record number of candidates will write the Radio Amateur Examination on 19 October 2006. 183 candidates have registered for the examination, which will be written in 22 centres around South Africa. Close to 50 candidates will write the entry-level license examination, which, after passing an operation test, will qualify students for the ZU license.

This is the highest number in a long time said Rassie Erasmus, the SARL Council member responsible for arranging the examination. Details of the examination centres and student numbers can be found on the web at www.sarl.org.za. The results of the examinations are expected during the first week of November.

NATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO CENTRE CLOSED FROM 25 OCTOBER TILL 5 NOVEMBER

The SARL National Amateur Radio Centre will be closed from 25 October till 5 November when the office Administrator is on leave. For urgent items, please email the Secretary, Henry Chamberlain, at secretary@sarl.org.za.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW OVERDUE

If you have not paid your subscriptions of the SARL for the current financial year, which runs from 1 July 2006 till 30 June 2007, you are now overdue. Please pay as soon as possible to prevent being taken off the membership register and loose access to the member's section of the SARL web. If you pay by electronic banking or bank transfer, please fax the details of the transaction to 088 011 675 2793.

We thank all members who have already paid their subscription for their support. Amateur Radio needs the support from all radio amateurs. You can do that by joining the National Body, the South African Radio League. Membership fee for ordinary members is only R305 per annum.

If you are not currently a member and have not been a member before or let your membership lapse a few years ago, you can take up the special offer of paying only R155, which will carry you through till 30 June 2007. Please note that only new members are eligible for the special offer and not current members whose fees were due on 1 July 2006.

Support Amateur Radio - join the SARL today.

WOULD YOUR CLUB LIKE TO HOST THE 2007 AGM?

The 2007 SARL AGM will be held at the National Amateur Radio Centre and the Sentech Conference facility on 14 April 2007. The SARL is inviting clubs in the Gauteng area to host the AGM. Last year the Durban Amateur Radio Club successfully hosted the AGM in Durban. In 2007 it is the turn of the Gauteng Clubs to host the event, the 2008 AGM will again be in another part of South Africa. A detailed specification of hosting requirements is available from the SARL Secretary. Send an Email to Henry Chamberlain at secretary@sarl.org.za. Whilst the meeting will be held at the NARC, the organising club can select the social event and the annual awards dinner venues. Please make your offer within the next two weeks.

RTA DATES FOR 2007 ANNOUNCED

The dates for the Radio Technology in Action programme for 2007 have been finalised and are as follows:

RTA KZN 21 April; RTA Eastern Cape 19 May; RTA Western Cape 2 June; RTA Freestate 21 July; RTA Gauteng 18 August.

Suggestions for topics and papers are invited. Please mail your ideas to armi@sarl.org.za before 30 October 2006.

YOUTH NET NUMBER 40 COMING UP THIS WEEK

The Youth Net has been running for 39 weeks and continues to attract new callers. There is also an interesting group of regular callers from all divisions and neighboring countries.

If you have been missing out on the Youth Net you now have a few other options to choose from besides the regular transmission on 3 650 kHz.

ZR6VT, Nico, has established a great station with the help of ZS6RG, Craig, and they are now able to run multiple relays of the Youth Net. Last week they were able to relay on 145,725 MHz in Pretoria as well as on 6 m on 51,4 MHz and 20 m on 14,235 MHz.

ZS6BIK, Alan, has been relaying the transmission on the 145,700 Sandton repeater.

Tune into Youth Net No.40 on Thursday evening from 17:45 on 3 650 kHz or one of the frequencies listed to join the group.

To get on the e-mail and SMS reminder list - send an e-mail to Stuart along with any comments, suggestions and news items to zr6dbz@wol.co.za.

DIVISION 6 BAND PLANNING MEETING DATE CHANGE

Due to conflicts with other events it has been decided to postpone the next meeting of the Division 6 Band Planning Committee to Saturday 4th November 2006, at 09:00-12:00 at NARC. Please accept our apologies for this change.

A mailing list of all clubs and other persons interested in Band Planning has been constructed. Names and email addresses were obtained from various different sources. Some names may no longer be correct for your club, and some email addresses have been found to be no longer valid. Please, would all clubs advise Peter Hers at zs6phd@mweb.co.za of the correct names, callsigns and email addresses of your club representatives.

ANNUAL JAMBOREE-ON-THE-AIR 21/22-10-2006

Dave Gemmell, ZS6AAW, wishes to remind all that the annual JOTA event takes place over next weekend, the 21st and 22nd October. He is grateful for a number of stations that he knows of that will be taking part in the activities and he asks that others that will also take please let him know.

All stations taking part must please ensure that the necessary notification of being an educational station is sent to the SARL office before the event in order to allow unlicensed people to speak on the air or send morse.

Dave also invites other stations to talk to the participating stations and thus promote amateur radio amongst the youth.

It is planned that the Chief Scout's message will be broadcast at 15:00 on Saturday on 7 070 kHz.

Dave requests that a short report and one or two photographs of the happenings at your JOTA/JOTI station by email to davegemmell@BMKNET.co.za. Just the photographs with a few words of explanations will be more than welcome.

This information is required for inclusion in the National Report which is to be sent to International Scout HQ in Geneva.

CQ HOU KOERS

CQ Hou Koers takes place concurrently with the JOTA/JOTI activities on Saturday 21 October and Gerard Schultz, ZS6CGS, has already brought a number of amateurs and commandos together. He will appreciate it if more amateurs will offer their assistance. His contact details are telephone 072 530 7758 and email address gerjan@absamail.co.za.

The preferred frequencies for use are 7 050 and 7 055 kHz, depending on occupation. Please allow preference to users of regular nets such as the Antique Wireless Association on 7 070 kHz and the Maritime Mobile Net on 7 045 kHz. Calls may be initiated on the Hamnet emergency frequency of 7 060 kHz but avoid long QSO's on it.

The Voortrekker Leader's message will be broadcast at 11:00 and before and after the message there will be opportunities to call in and convey short messages to Oom Piet. Let the children use the microphone, it is their day.

A QSL card and log sheet is already available on the website of the Voortrekkers. Endeavour to have a map of Southern Africa available on which the children insert pins to indicate where contacts have been made, the like it to look up the places and mark them.

SAATI AGM

The South African Amateur Technology Institute will be holding their annual general meeting on 28 October 2006 at 14:00. The meeting will be held at the premises of the Centurin Radio Amateur Club in Prospect street, Hatfield, Pretoria and will be followed by a bring and braai. Fires will be provided. The guest speaker will be Hannes ZS6JDE.

NEW COMMITTEE FOR THE SASOLBURG RADIO CLUB

At the recently held AGM the Sasolburg Radio Club elected the following committee: Chairman Ruaan, ZS6RMS; Vice-Chairman Malcolm, ZS4SM; Secretary Riaan, ZS4PR; Treasurer and editor of QRX Andries, ZS6VL. The technical team consists of Frans, ZS4FD, Frik, ZS6FZ, Johan, ZS4SS and Ockerd, ZS6LZ. The webmaster is Jaco ZR6JCO.

The Club's Chairman's Cup was presented to Frans Durand, ZS4FD, for his mastermind and support of the successful West-, North-, and East Freestate VHF/UHF-linked repeater network. Other recipients of awards include Johan Steyn, ZS4SS, Andries Visagie, ZS6VL, Riaan Greeff, ZS4PR, and Malcolm Kriel, ZS4SM. Certificates of merit were presented to committee members and members for their services to the club. Congratulations.

HF PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that solar activity is expected to be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to unsettled levels on 21 October. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards the East from about 06:00 CAT and 40 m at 19:00. From about 15:00, 15 and 20 m may open towards Europe. From 18:00, 15 and 80 m may open to the USA.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

19 October - End of year RAE; 20/22 October - CQ Hou Koers and JOTA; 28 October - SAATI AGM; 30 October - Closing date for submission of offers to host the SARL 2007 AGM; 4 November - Division 6 Band Planning Committee meeting at the NARC; 30 November - Closing date for submission of nominations for Council Members and motions for next year's AGM.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX